

### REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 24, 2003. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-16, 25-28, 30, 32, 34-42, 44, 46, and 48-60 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 25, 39, 54, and 56-60 are in independent form. Claims 5, 7, 9, 17-24, 29, 31, 33, 43, and 47 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 25-28, 30, 32, 34, 36-42, 44, 46, 48, and 50-52 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention, and Claims 53-60 have been added to provide Applicant with a more complete scope of protection. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The title has been amended to make it more descriptive, as required by the Office Action. The abstract has been carefully reviewed and amended to overcome the objection noted on page 2 of the Office Action. A Letter Transmitting Corrected Formal Drawings is submitted herewith, in response to the objections to the drawings set out in the form PTO-948 attached to the Office Action.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 7, 9, 17, 31, 33, and 45 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Features equivalent to those recited in allowable Claim 7 have been incorporated into independent Claims 1, 25, and 39. Similarly, new independent Claims 54, 56, and 57 include equivalent features to those of allowable Claim 7. Accordingly, for the reasons stated below, Applicant believes independent Claims 1, 25, 39, 54, 56, and 57 to be condition for allowance. New independent Claims 58-60 include equivalent features to those of allowable Claim 17, and are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Office Action objected to the drawings based on the Draftsperson's objection to the figures, as set forth on form PTO-948.

Applicant has carefully reviewed and amended the figures to overcome the noted objection. It is believed that the objection to figures have been remedied, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to the abstract because of an informality noted in paragraph 1 of the Office Action.

Applicant has carefully reviewed and amended the abstract to, among other things, correct the noted informality. In particular, the word "said" in line 6 of the Abstract has been amended to read --the--. It is believed that the objection to the Abstract has been remedied, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

The Office Action states that the title of the invention is not descriptive. The title has been amended to read as follows:

--PRINT SYSTEM FOR PRINTING TO A REMOTE PRINTING  
APPARATUS--.

Applicant respectfully submits that the title, as amended, is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim 47 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

Cancellation of Claim 47 renders the rejection to that claim moot.

Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-16, 18, 19, 21-30, 32, 34, 36-44, 46, 48, and 50-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,450,571 (*Rosekrans et al.*), and Claims 11, 20, 35, and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Rosekrans et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,995,723 (*Sperry et al.*).

First cancellation of Claims 5, 7, 9, 17-24, 29, 31, 33, and 43 renders the rejections of these claims moot.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 1 is a printing system that includes a client computer and a server computer, connected to a network and each having storage means respectively for storing a client service item file and a server service item file, each of which comprises a set of user selectable service items. Each service item comprises a set of printing attributes. The printing system includes a comparison unit, an update unit, and a print process driver. The comparison unit compares a time stamp associated with the client service item file with a time stamp associated with the server service item file. The update unit updates the client service item file on the basis of the server service item file in accordance with a result of the comparison performed by the comparison unit, and the print process driver processes a print job according to a particular set of printing attributes.

As discussed above, independent Claim 1 has been amended, among other things, to include features that are equivalent to allowable Claim 7. That is, comparing a time stamp associated with a client service item file with a time stamp associated with a server service item file, and updating the client service item file on the basis of the server service item file in accordance with a result of the comparison performed by the comparison unit.

Nothing has been found in either *Rosekrans et al.* or *Sperry et al.* that would teach or suggest comparing a time stamp associated with a client service item file with a time stamp associated with a server service item file, and the client service item file on the basis of the server service item file in accordance with a result of the comparison performed by the comparison unit, as recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent Claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

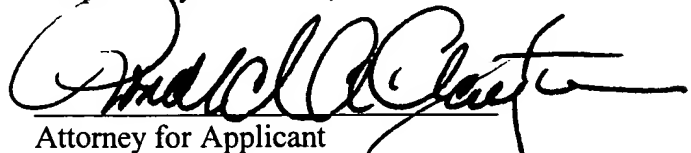
Independent Claim 25 and 39 are method and computer readable memory medium claims, respectively, corresponding to system Claim 1, and are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 1. Additionally, independent Claims 54, 56, and 57 include similar features as those discussed above in connection with Claim 1. Accordingly, Claims 54, 56, and 57 are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 1.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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